

Message Text

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65

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1062

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

A/AMCONSUL ADANA 4883

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

UNCLAS ANKARA 7770

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, TU

SUBJECT: POST-ELECTION MANEUVERING

POST-ELECTION MANEUVERING AMONG AND WITHIN THE POLITICAL PARTIES
IS REFLECTED IN THE FOLLOWING PUBLIC STATEMENTS BY POLITICAL
FIGURES:

A. JUSTICE PARTY (JP) DEPUTY CHAIRMAN NECMETTIN CEVHERI
ANNOUNCED AT A PRESS CONFERENCE OCTOBER 15 THAT ALTHOUGH THE JP
DID NOT WANT EARLY ELECTIONS, IF NECESSARY THEY WERE PREPARED
TO GO TO ELECTIONS.

B. REPUBLICAN PEOPLE'S PARTY (RPP) CHARIMAN ECEVIT,
IN AN INTERVIEW PUBLISHED IN OCTOBER 16 POLITIKA, RESPONDED TO
CEVHERI'S STATEMENT BY SAYING: "IF THE JP SERIOUSLY WANTS
EARLY ELECTIONS THEY WILL DISCLOSE IT AND EARLY ELECTIONS WILL
BE HELD WITH THE VOTES OF THE TWO PARTIES" (RPP AND JP).
ASKED IF HE WOULD FORM A MINORITY GOVERNMENT, ECEVIT
RESPONDED, "IT'S TOO EARLY TO SAY," BUT INDICATED THAT THE
"POSSIBILITY DEPENDS ON FINDING A PARTNER WITH ENOUGH VOTES".
ECEVIT ALSO COMMENTED THAT HE DID NOT BELIEVE THE LIFTING OF
THE ARMS EMBARGO HAD "A POSITIVE OR NEGATIVE EFFECT ON THE
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ELECTIONS" IN TERMS OF HELPING THE DEMIREL GOVERNMENT.

C. NATIONAL SALVATION PARTY (NSP) CHAIRMAN (AND DEPRIMIN)
ERBAKAN, IN AN INTERVIEW PUBLISHED IN OCTOBER 16
POLITIKA, DENOUNCED AS UNFOUNDED RUMORS THAT NSP COLLEAGUE
(AND MIN OF AGRICULTURE) KORKUT OZAL WOULD ATTEMPT TO TAKE
OVER AS PARTY CHAIRMAN. (OZAL, IN AN INTERVIEW ALSO PUBLISHED
IN POLITIKA, SAID THAT AT THE OCTOBER 19 MEETING OF THE PARTY'S
GENERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD, "THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE PARTY
WILL BE DISCUSSED AND ITS MISTAKES BROUGHT OUT. MY AIM IS
NOT TO DIVIDE THE PARTY OR CREATE FACTION.") ERBAKAN STATED
THAT THE NSP WAS CONCERNED THAT ELEMENTS OF THE COALITION
PROTOCOL HAD NOT BEEN IMPLEMENTED, INCLUDING NSP'S RIGHT
TO CONTROL THE PRESS AND PUBLICATIONS OFFICE AND THE ASSIGNMENT
OF AMBASSADORS TO THE ISLAMIC WORLD.

D. DEMOCRATIC PARTY(DP) DEPUTY NAZIM BAS BLAMED
CHAIRMAN BOZBEYLI'S MISMANAGEMENT OF THE PARTY DURING THE
GOVERNMENT CRISIS PERIOD FOR THE RECENT ELECTION SETBACK.
HE CALLED FOR AN IMMEDIATE CONVENING OF A NATIONAL CONGRESS.
BAS ALSO SAID THAT THE DP "SHOULD UNITE WITH THE NATIONIST
ACTION PARTY AND OTHER NATIONALIST PARTIES".

E. OCTOBER 16 NEWSPAPERS ALSO SPECULATE ON DISSENSION
WITHIN THE INDEPENDENTS. INDEPENDENT DEPUTY MEHMET ALI
ARSAN RESPONDED TO INDEPENDENT "CHAIRMAN" SADETTIN
BILGIC'S RECENT COMMENT THAT THE INDEPENDENTS COULD SUPPORT
AN RPP-DP COALITION BY NOTING THAT THE INDEPENDENTS WOULD
MEET NEXT WEEK TO "ELECT NEW ADMINISTRATORS, DISCUSS GOVERNMENT-
INDEPENDENT RELATIONS AND EVALUATE THE OCTOBER 12 ELECTIONS."
HE SAID: "WHETHER OR NOT THE GOVERNMENT WILL CONTINUE
DEPENDS TO A GREAT EXTENT ON THE INDEPENDENTS RATHER THAN
THE PARTIES WHICH FORM THE GOVERNMENT."
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